



**Pigeons.**—The Eastern papers are boasting of the supply of pigeons in their market. We have seen them overhead, but very few have been caught in this neighborhood. The Argus says an individual in Upper Mount Bethel caught in two hauls, with a net, seventy dozes. From the following it would appear that they are very abundant in the west. A letter from Laurel, Indiana, says:

"I am completely worn down. The pigeons are roosting all through the woods, and the roosts extend for miles. Our neighbors and ourselves have for several nights built large fires and keep up reports of fire-arms to scare them off.

While I write, within a quarter of a mile, there are thirty guns firing; the pigeons come in such large quantities as to destroy a great deal of timber, break limbs of large trees and even tear up some of the roots. The woods are covered with dead pigeons, and the hogs, are getting fat on them. Our old friend Hetrich, formerly of Baltimore killed fifty at four shots.

**Firemen's Parade.**

Last Saturday was a gala day for Stroudsburg. The members of the Humane Fire Company turned out in full uniform—numbering fifty—and paraded through our streets, to the dulcet strains of music, presenting one of the grandest and most brilliant spectacles that has ever been witnessed in our charming Borough. The Engine and equipments were beautifully and tastefully decorated for the occasion, which argued well for the exquisite taste of the Ladies. Five little boys, arrayed in the most fantastical costume, accompanied the Engine during the parade, which elicited the warmest expressions of admiration from the crowds that thronged the streets. After perambulating the principal streets, the procession repaired to the new Engine House—recently erected on the south side of Elizabeth street—near the residence of Morris D. Robison, Esq., where, after appropriate addresses by Messrs. Dreher and Burnet, the Engine was ushered into its new home, with a joyous three times three.

**Pennsylvania Legislature.**

The proceedings of the legislature for the past week are not of very deep interest. They have not yet disposed of the apportionment bill, nor done anything with the appropriation bill, both of which will yet occupy some time; and yet the session prolonged to nearly its usual length.

Neither of three prominent divorce cases have passed, (those of Mr. Forrest, Mr. Wetherill, and Lieut. Middleton). Nor should they. The two latter cases we believe are killed; and that of Mr. Forrest is ditto, but hopes are entertained by some of its advocates of its revival. Money will do a great deal; but has not procured the passage of these bills.

A strong remonstrance from the Philadelphia Friends, against a repeal of the law of 1847 in relation to fugitive slaves, was read in both houses on Monday.

A bill to provide for the election of Auditor General and Surveyor General passed both houses.

A bill in relation to Banks passed the Senate.

**Death of Mr. Calhoun.**

The Hon. John C. Calhoun died at Washington on Sunday morning. His death was not unlooked for, yet it cast a gloom over the city. His remains were on Tuesday last, temporarily deposited in the Congressional burying ground, at Washington, with the highest civic honors.

Mr. Calhoun was in some respects a remarkable man—during his long life, sustaining a personal character of extraordinary purity—and filled next to the highest station known to our government. His character and public services are known to the people of the whole country.

The Elephant Columbus, which killed its keeper at Philadelphia, about two years since, had one of his vicious fits again on Saturday, during which he seized his keeper and threw him a distance of fifteen feet, fortunately without inflicting any serious injury. An animal so dangerous should be killed at once.

**Rejection of Judge Yohe.**

We most sincerely regret to notice the rejection of Samuel Yohe, Esq. as associate judge of Northampton county by a strict party vote, the Whigs voting for him, and the Locofocos, including Speaker Best, against him. We learn that his confirmation was solicited by the presiding judge of that judicial district, Judge J. Pringle Jones; by every member of the Northampton Bar, except J. M. Porter, Esq., and by some eight hundred citizens, who petitioned for it in the strongest language. Yet in despite of all this, and the fact that Judge Yohe is one of the most worthy citizens of Eastern, he has still been rejected by a Locofoco Senate. We cannot but regard this act of the Senate as a wanton abuse of power.

**Right for Once!**

"The Times is in error in supposing that Mr. Wilmot is entitled to all the infamy which will yet fall upon the authors of the Wilmot Proviso. He is not the inventor of this humbug, which has well nigh proved a firebrand in the temple of the Union. On the contrary, it was invented by more wily and cunning political jugglers." [Pennsylvania.]

The Pennsylvania is perfectly correct. THOMAS JEFFERSON devised and drafted what is now inaccurately denominated "the Wilmot Proviso" in 1784—fifty-six years ago—long before the Buchanan and Taney had thought of pretending to be democrats. That their application of such epithets to Mr. Jefferson is politic or in good taste, we do not affirm; but it seems to come very easy.—N. Y. Tribune

**Conviction of Prof. Webster.**

The trial of Prof. J. W. Webster, at Boston, for the murder of Dr. Parkman, has been concluded. It terminated on Saturday night, at near 12 o'clock, in the conviction of the prisoner. It had occupied eleven days, exciting a deep interest everywhere throughout the country, and the whole of the circumstances and proceedings from one of the most remarkable cases in criminal annals.—The entire evidence from first to last has been circumstantial, and even if we believe all the witnesses testify truly, far from complete. But the course of the defence has surprised every one.—The counsel, while the government was producing its strongest testimony, have crept along with a mildness amounting to indecision; and no one can carefully survey the ground they occupied and their efforts in behalf of their client without coming to the conclusion that their hearts were not in the work. The reasons for this may remain for all time a secret, but it has had a powerful influence in producing the conviction of the prisoner, as though they had at once admitted guilt, and that they were at work in the face of a full confession. There is evidently a great deal, in the case a very great deal, which has not been made to appear.

The arguments of counsel having been concluded, the prisoner spoke in his own defence, a thing rather unusual in our criminal trials. What he says will be read with deep and painful interest. He complains much of the course of his counsel. The following are the proceedings in the case after the conclusion of the argument:

**PROFESSOR WEBSTER'S SPEECH.**

The attorney general having concluded his remarks, Chief Justice Shaw, with much emotion, stated to the prisoner that it was his privilege now to address the jury, if he had anything to say, or any explanation to make.

Professor Webster arose, and in a very distinct voice, made the following remarks:

"I have desired to enter into an explanation of the complicated network of circumstances which, in nine cases out of ten, are completely distorted, and probably nine-tenths of which, could be satisfactorily explained. All the points of testimony have been placed in the hands of my counsel, by whom my innocence could have been firmly established. Acting entirely under their direction, I have sealed my lips during the period of my confinement, trusting myself entirely to them. They have not deemed it necessary, in their superior wisdom, (this was said in an ironical tone) to bring forward the evidence which was to exonerate me from a variety of these acts. The government have brought whatever consummate ingenuity could suggest against me, and I hope it will not have an undue influence upon my jury. I will not allude to many of the charges, but there is one which touches me, and that is the letter which has been produced. It is not the first I had read in the daily prints which have been distributed in my apartments, and various publications which have been made respecting them. One statement was that I had, after the disappearance of Doctor Parkman, purchased a quantity of oxalic acid to remove the stains of blood, and it instantly occurred to me that this parcel might be saved and produced when necessary. For several days Mrs. W. had requested me to purchase some acid for domestic use, and as my wife had repeatedly laughed at me because I had not purchased it, I had borne it in my mind that afternoon, and had gone into Thayer's store, under the Rereere House, made the purchase, and waited till the Cambridge Hourly came along, and then jumped into the omnibus with the bundle. I went home and gave the bundle to my wife; and when afterwards I heard so much said about the bundle, it flashed on my mind in a moment that this must be the bundle. It was to this bundle, and not to any document that I referred in the direction to my wife. As regards the nitrate of copper in the usual lectures preceding my arrest, I had occasion to use the influence of chemical agents in producing changes of various subjects. Among others on gases. I prepared a large quantity of oxalic acid gas. A gallon jar was filled with gas in order to produce the changes from dark color to orange, and also in air. On great heat being applied to the jar the gas was drawn through water. As to the nitrate of copper spilled on the floor of the laboratory, it was spilled accidentally from a quantity, and by me, in my lectures between the day of Dr. Parkman's disappearance and my own arrest. So I might go on explaining a variety of circumstances which have been distorted. My counsel have pressed me to keep calm. My very calmness has been made to bear against me; but my trust has been in my God and my own innocence. In regard to money, I must say a word. The money which I paid Dr. Parkman on the afternoon of Friday, Nov. 23d, I had saved up from time to time and kept it in a trunk in my house in Cambridge; but, unfortunately, no one ever saw me take it out—therefore, I can only give my word that such is the fact. Several years ago, I had students who were in the habit of being in my laboratory, and who injured my apparatus; therefore, I prepared everything for my own use in my lectures with my own hands, and that is the reason why I excluded persons from my laboratory. As regards my whereabouts from the hour of Dr. P.'s disappearance, I have put into my counsel's hands satisfactory information, which will account for every day I had spent during that week—for every day and every hour. I never was absent from home. As to being seen by Mr. Sanderson, I was at home every evening. One thing that has been omitted by my counsel was, that on the Friday on which the alleged murder was said to have been committed I had purchased Humboldt's new work, "Cosmos," and while waiting for an omnibus, stepped into Brigham's to take a mutton chop, and in coming out to take the omnibus, had forgotten my book; but after my arrest remembered the place where I had left it, and mentioned it to my counsel. They had sent to Brigham's, and the book had been found."

The Professor here sat down, but almost instantly arose and said, "I will say one word more. I have felt very much distressed by the production of those anonymous letters, more so than by anything that has occurred during the trial. I call my God to witness, that if it was the last hour of my life, I never wrote those letters. Since the trial commenced, a letter has been received from this very 'Civis' by one of my counsel. If this person has any spark of humanity, I call upon him to come forward. A notice to this effect has been put in the papers."

Dr. Webster again took his seat, having evidently made a deep impression upon all present by the seriousness of his remarks, and the earnestness of his manner.

**VERDICT OF THE JURY.**

The jury retired, at five minutes past, eight o'clock, and came into court at eleven o'clock.

Chief Justice Shaw called on the prisoner to stand up and hear the verdict.

Chief Justice.—Mr. Foreman, have you agreed to a verdict?

Foreman.—We have.

Chief Justice.—Do you find the prisoner guilty, or not guilty?

Foreman.—GUILTY!

The prisoner sank back into his chair with his hands upon the railing, and his face on his hands, and so remained for ten minutes.

When he recovered from the shock, he said to officer Jones, "why are you keeping me here to be gazed at?" He was immediately carried up to the jail, and locked up for the night, the precaution having been taken to remove his razor and knife.

A buggy was at the door of the Court-room to convey the sad intelligence to his family at Cambridge.

During the whole of this trial, Prof. Webster has not shed a tear, or expressed any particular interest for anything but his table of supplies.—His last order to officer Lawrence, when he left the jail to hear the verdict, was—"Tell Parker to send me some of his best turkey for dinner tomorrow, and a lot of good segars."

**LACONIC.**—The following is absolutely the whole of a letter received by a respectable member of the Legislature, on the 22d inst.

"Don't Laird's Bank bill remind you of some reforming ass, Who'd pluck the sun out of the skies, And light the world with gas? ARMSTRONG COUNTY."

**Sir John Franklin.**

The expedition now fitting out by that distinguished philanthropist, Henry Grinnell of New Bedford, for prosecuting the search for Sir John Franklin, will be ready to sail by the first of May. It consists of two vessels, to be called the "Advance" and the "Rescue." They are to be fully equipped, guarded and strengthened in the most complete manner against the ice, and provisioned for a two years voyage. They are to search the shores of Wellington's Inlet and Cape Walker for copper canisters, which Franklin was to throw overboard enclosing notes of his voyage. Mr. Grinnell heads the subscription for this object with \$30,000. There is some expectation that Lady Franklin will visit this country before the expedition starts. It is to be under the command of Lieutenants De Haven and Griffen. Honor to Mr. Grinnell for his liberal and noble hearted undertaking.

**Mexican Outrages.**

We learn from Matamoros that the agents of the Mexican government have recently committed still other outrages, that are to be brought to the attention of the United States government for redress. It is known that during the war, large shipments of tobacco were made to the ports of Tampico, Matamoros and Vera Cruz, the duties on which were paid to the American authorities, and by the terms of the treaty these goods were to be permitted to be sent to any part of the interior, the same as though regularly imported under the Mexican authorities. Recently a portion of the tobacco lying in store at Matamoros was sold by Messrs. S. A. Belden & Co. to a house in Vera Cruz, by whom a portion of it was sent to San Juan, but while on its way, seized at Sahillo by the judge of the district, and confiscated, in addition to which Belden & Co. were fined some \$27,000, and a special agent sent to Matamoros to collect it, with instructions that if the fine was not promptly paid, to imprison the parties. Belden & Co. of course protested, but it was no use. Their establishment was closed, and an order for their arrest and imprisonment forthwith issued; and to save themselves from a dungeon, Messrs. Belden & Co. were compelled to abandon their property and business, by crossing the river to Brownsville. The inhabitants of Brownsville, on hearing of the order for Belden's arrest, were organizing to cross the river, to wreak their vengeance on all concerned in the outrage. No time will be lost in laying the whole matter before our secretary of state, and our minister at the city of Mexico.

**A New Description of Steam Vessels.**

For some days past great excitement has prevailed at Marseilles, by the arrival at that port of an entirely new description of steamer, and which, if successful, will cause a complete revolution in the present plans of building steam vessels. The vessel is named the Port de Marseilles, and was built by a Mr. Lieueur. It has not the slightest appearance of masts or funnel; in fact, there is nothing to show whether she is propelled by wind, or steam, or oar. She glides through the water as if propelled by some invisible agency. The propelling power is by a simple lever of sufficient power.—European Paper.

**CALIFORNIA.**

A practical printer, who had gone from the Tribune office to California, thus sends his well-expressed experience to that paper:—"You may be under the impression, from statements published in the California papers and elsewhere, that the climate of this country is of a very superior order; but the very reverse is the fact. You, I believe, have never suffered from a visitation of the California fever, and you have been lucky in that respect. Take my word for it, any man that is in anything like comfortable circumstances at home, doing a fair business, and enjoying reasonable health, is an unfortunate man to allow himself to be wheeled into the opinion that may render himself better off in life by leaving the comforts of civilization, and inflicting upon himself the various horrors of this detestable country, for the meagre chance of getting a little more money here than he could at home in a given time. Tell all your friends that have the fever, that if they know when they are well off they will stay where they are, and not risk their lives in such an inhospitable climate as this. \* \* \* The papers do not publish one in a thousand of the deaths that occur here. If any friend of the deceased will furnish the notice, and pay for its insertion, it is published; not otherwise. Hundreds—thousands leave their bones to rot in the soil of California, leaving friends in the States, and elsewhere, to look for their return, who never learn their fate for many months—perhaps for years. If a man could be assured of good health while here, he might be excused for coming, because he may do well; but the chances are ten to one against him, in point of health, and he had better not venture it. I have observed that of those who come here, as a general thing, the men that have left home with a high reputation for general health and hardiness of constitution, are the first to be taken sick—the first to wither under the baneful influences of this detestable climate; while, in many instances, those who have for years been in the habit at home, of suffering from various bodily weaknesses have here assumed a new and altogether desirable temperament and tone of health.

The Detroit Free Press says, wild pigeons are very plenty in the woods back of that city. Wild rice was found in the crops of some of those taken from which the Free Press infers that they must have flown 700 miles in less than 24 hours, as the rice is not found nearer than that distance, and it digests in 24 hours.

By the laws of New York any man and woman wishing to be married, have only to go before a third person, no matter whether a clergyman, magistrate or not, and declare their intention whereupon they are pronounced married.

So!—The Philadelphia Times says, a gentleman of that city who ranked high in his profession, has quietly started for California, leaving the Church of which he was treasurer, minus some \$800 or \$1,000, beside numerous little promises to pay.

**Another Call for Divorce.**

A travelling pill agent of Dr. Brandreth, calling himself Dr. Yaw, put up on Thursday last, with Mr. Perkins at the Shakespeare, accompanied with his wife. On Friday, the doctor was found missing, having left his wife, alone and distressed, since which he has not been heard from. The wife represents herself to have been formerly a Miss Pease of Wilkesbarre, where her father keeps a tavern; and where the doctor was a guest, and became acquainted with and won her. She also says, that he has taken with him her gold watch, and some dresses, leaving her quite destitute. The charities of the boarders have been appealed to, to get her home.—Harrisburg Telegraph.

A bill has passed the Legislature making the Auditor General, Surveyor General and Deputy, or County Surveyors, elective by the people—each to hold their offices for three years. A bill has also passed the Senate giving to the people the election of Prosecuting Attorneys. A bill to accomplish the latter purpose passed the Legislature of 1847, but was vetoed by Gov. Shunk, under the advice, we suppose, of the present Democratic editor of the Keystone. Then the party cried hallelujah to the Governor for his veto. Now the party vote for the election of Prosecuting Attorneys. What change has come over the spirit of their dreams! The cause is evident. We now have a Whig Attorney General, and the Prosecuting Attorneys are as a general matter Whigs.—That a Whig should hold office grates terribly upon the nerves of Locofocos, and in order to prevent this calamity as much as they can, they vote to give the selection to the people. Who will say Locofocos do not love office?—do not hang to it as the drowning man to the last floating plank from the general wreck!

**Interesting Discovery.**

It is stated in letters from Copenhagen, that Dr. Pierre Andre Munch, Professor at the university of Christiana, has presented to the society of Northern Archeology of that city, an extremely curious manuscript, which he has discovered, and which he obtained during his voyage in 1849 to the Orkney Isles. This manuscript, in a state of excellent preservation, and judging from the form of the letters to be referred to, the tenth, or perhaps even the ninth century, contains several episodes, in the latin language, on the history of Norway, stating some important facts, heretofore entirely unknown, which illustrate the obscure ages, which, in Norway, stating some important facts, heretofore entirely unknown, which illustrate the obscure ages, which, in Norway, preceded the introduction of christianity.

B. F. Brown.—The grand jury of Washington, on Saturday found a bill of indictment against B. F. Brown, charged with forgery and other fraudulent practices on the treasury department.

**How Louis Napoleon became President.**

The New York Sun has been furnished with a document, published in French, which, if true, betrays a most infamous secret. It states that, prior to the election of December 10th, 1848, a treaty was executed at Madrid, and ratified at London and Naples, by which Louis Napoleon pledged himself to the establishment of monarchy, in France, in favor of such a person as should be designated by a Congress of Northern Nations, of which Russia was to have the lead. By this treaty Louis Philippe, the Queen of Spain, and the King of Naples, engaged to raise Louis Napoleon to the Presidency of the French Republic, from which position he was to operate against the Republic and in case he should not obtain the throne of France, he was to be secured a capital of 250,000,000 francs, with the title of Prince. The document sets forth a history of facts and machinations, to prove that the conduct of Louis Napoleon since his elevation to the Presidency, fully sustains the probability of such a nefarious treaty. In connection with this matter, we may mention that the Washington correspondent of the Pennsylvania stated, a few days since, that a letter from M. Poussin had been received in the capital, in which the ex-Minister expressed his belief that Louis Napoleon was becoming insane, as it was rumored that he was about resigning the Presidency in favor of the Duc de Bordeaux, the only surviving heir of the Bourbons.

**Catching Wild Pigeons.**

The York (Penn.) Republican states that Mr. Herbert, of Fawn Township, was in York on Monday, with a wagon loaded with about 700 wild pigeons, which had been taken in a net. One person in Lancaster caught two thousand of them in a net a few days ago.

**Dreadful Accident.**

A dreadful accident occurred, the 21st inst., at the store of Capt. E. A. Keutzner, about two miles above Milton. Two young men named Wm. Emmens and Augustus Jodon, went out after pigeons, and after returning to the store of Capt. Keutzner, indulged in going thro' military evolutions with two guns then in the room and which they thought were unloaded. Mr. Jodon pulled the trigger of his gun while pointed at Emmens, when a load was discharged and entered the brain of Emmens above the left eye, killing him instantly. The distress of Jodon at the effect produced, was truly pitiable.

The deceased was 23 years old, and has left behind him a widowed mother and a younger brother.

May not this be a sufficient warning against the silly if not criminal practice of handling fire-arms unnecessarily—carelessly—or in wanton sport?—

**A Courteous Reply.**

An American traveller being unexpectedly detained at the mole or quarantine in Odessa, was very civilly offered "half of his apartment and a sofa to lie on," by a young Englishman who acted as translator to the mole. After they had formed an intimate acquaintance, and one evening had retired to rest, the young traveller asked his friend how he could endure the blasphemy which was so constantly heard there. The young Englishman replied, that "as a gentleman, these things were disagreeable to him—but as to their being intrinsically wrong, it was no matter of concern to him, as he denied the truth of all revelation, and believed Jesus Christ to be an impostor."

The traveller, without supposing the remark would be heeded, except by courtesy, replied, "Either Christ was an impostor, or he was not. If he was an impostor, we have the inconceivable phenomenon of a base man practising virtue, self denial, charity, forgiveness of injuries, through his whole life, in scourging, contumely, and even crucifixion. It is philosophical to suppose that a bad man would take so much pains to make others good? But if he was not impostor, then he has told the truth, and we must believe him." "Is it possible that I never saw that before?" was the only reply of the young Englishman; but the argument sank deep into his heart; and when the traveller had arrived at Alexandria, he received a letter from the former skeptic, acknowledging him as "the best friend he ever had," encouraging him to be equally faithful to others, and praying him not to forget his "Odessa convert."—American Messenger.

A committee of the New York Assembly, in their report on intemperance in the State, estimate the amount annually expended for drinks, at 7000 grog-shops in the cities of that State, exclusive of villages, at upwards of twenty-five million dollars. They have collected statistics from the various city and county prisons, with the exception of twenty-three, whence no returns have been received, which prove that upwards of 36,000 intemperate persons were arrested in 1849, and that from four-fifths to nine-tenths of all the crime committed has its origin in intemperance.

**The Coal Trade.**

The following is from the Miners Journal of last week.

The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company have promulgated their rates for coals on board at Roundout as follows' copied from their circular.

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Lump per ton   | \$3 55 |
| Broken         | 3 65   |
| Range or Stove | 3 65   |
| Nut            | 3 35   |
| Chesnut        | 3 90   |

They guarantee the freight not to exceed 50 cents to New York, making the price of the Coal delivered in New York, \$1 05 per ton.— This is certainly a low figure. This company will sell all the coal mined by the Washington Company, and the increase from that quarter, they state will be about two hundred thousand tons—and it is intimated pretty strongly that it is their determination to sell all the increase. This is certainly a low figure for Coal, and it is fortunate that their supply is limited.

The Lehigh Company sell their Coal in Boats at Mauch Chunk, at \$1 60 cash—and it is believed that they will adhere to the published rates at Bristol [that is \$3 62 1-2 lump and \$3 75 for prepared coal] notwithstanding the rates promulgated by the Delaware and Hudson Company.

Some of the Schuylkill dealers have issued their circular, naming no prices—but at the rates at which Schuylkill Coal has been offered in New York, it will not net, for White Ash \$1 50 at Mount Carbon by Rail Road—by Canal it will pay a little better. The prospect for Schuylkill County, to say the least, are not very encouraging under existing circumstances. Carbon County Gazette.

Wednesday last was a busy day in the New York P. Office. The 'Canada' took out 57,586 letters for Europe; and the Washington, 10,167, making a total of 67,753; which, added to the regular daily business of the office, makes the number passing through it in one day, 180,000.

**Wild Fowl.**

The Elkton Democrat says immense numbers of wild ducks and geese are shot, at this season of the year, in the head waters of the Chesapeake, and sent to Baltimore and Philadelphia. One gunner killed, a few days since, near Havre-de-Grace, 200 ducks, and over 1000 were shot the same day. It is fair to presume they averaged fifty cents a pair, amounting to \$250. A pretty good day's work.

A letter in the New Orleans Picayune states that many of the public records of Louisiana have been materially damaged, and rendered perfectly useless in cases of reference, by the ravages of small insect, the same as that described by Humbolt and other travellers in South America and Mexico. The Recorder of the parish of Corroll, Louisiana, writes, that the entire acts of 1837, '38, '39, and up to 1841 are destroyed.

**Woolen Printing.**

Messrs. Holt & Brierly, of Lowell, have in successful operation a new improvement, of their own discovery, which promises to yield a rich reward. It is the printing of woolen goods, in any style of stripe and figure that may be desired, and in perfectly fast colors, such as will stand the test of thorough washing. Mr. Thomas Brierly is the original inventor and discoverer of the process of this printing and has it secured by patent. The colors are of superior brilliancy, and the style of goods is universally admired. For linings of ladies' and gentlemen's cloaks and coats, we predict that these goods will soon become all the rage. For children's clothing, too, they are so much prettier than any thing in the market, that they can hardly fail of a great run.—Worcester Spy.

John F. Bachman, a young graduate of the Eastern Argus office, now in California, has been appointed a Police officer in San Francisco at \$12 a week.